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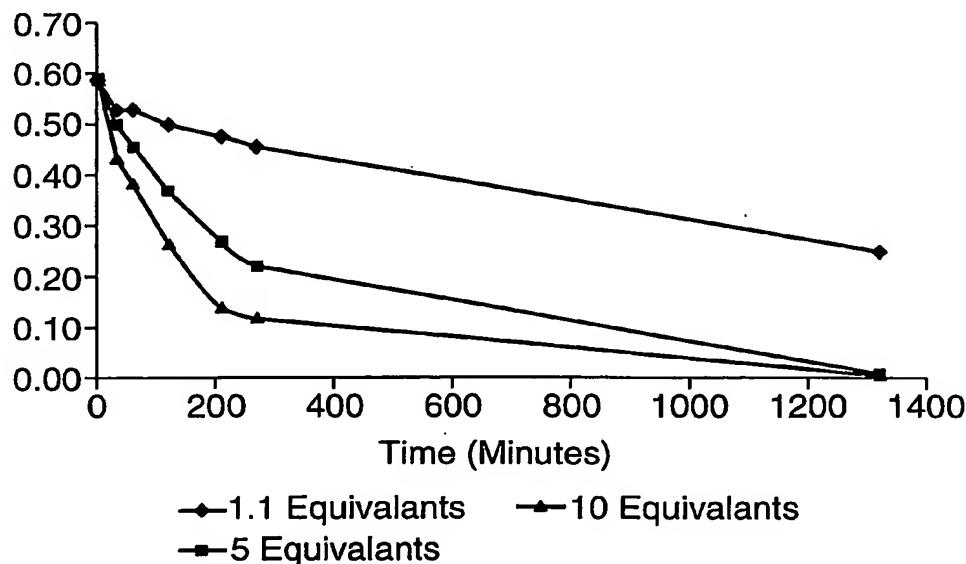
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(54) Title: MEDICINAL COMPOSITIONS AND METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF



(57) Abstract: Methods for the manufacture of medicinal compositions are described. A method for the manufacture of a medicinal composition according to the invention comprises: (a) Providing a biocompatible polymer of the general formula  $-\text{O}-\text{R}^1-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{n}$  wherein: "R<sup>1</sup>" is a linear, branched, or cyclic organic group, "n" is at least three, (b) Acylating the biocompatible polymer to provide an acylated biocompatible polymer and a mixed anhydride; (c) Reacting the mixed anhydride with a nucleophile to provide an acylated biocompatible polymer with a terminal carboxylic acid derivative capable of being chemically converted to an acid in the absence of water; (d) Converting the terminal carboxylic acid derivative to an acylated biocompatible polymer with a terminal carboxylic acid; and (e) Combining the acylated biocompatible polymer with a drug to provide the medicinal composition.

WO 2005/066238 A1



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